IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

Jesse Cowans, :

Petitioner : Case No. C-1-00-618

v. : Judge Sargus

Margaret Bagley, Warden, : Magistrate Judge Abel

Respondent :

ORDER

On December 15, 2003, counsel for petitioner and respondent participated in a telephone status conference with the Magistrate Judge. A return of writ and traverse have been filed. The petition is awaiting decision on the merits.

Petitioner's counsel indicated that Cowans will likely file a Murnahan appeal in the Supreme Court of Ohio within the next 30 days. When he does, petitioner will file a motion to stay in this Court.

s/Mark R. Abel
United States Magistrate Judge